

Ground Operations - Operations and Maintenance/Sustainment (FINAL)

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APP # 700598

1. Project Description

A. Statement of GO Activity

The Friends of El Mirage Grounds Operation Project will fund work activities to augment BLM staff with onsite visitor services along with the normal operations and maintenance activities required to sustain OHV recreation opportunities. BLM Staff, Maintenance Workers and Park Rangers work to clean restrooms and maintain facilities such as trails, roads, signs, kiosks, fences and vehicle barriers. Non Law Enforcement Park Rangers and Volunteers work together to provide seamless visitor services including manning the visitor center, providing public information, emergency services and visitor contacts for voluntary compliance with the rules and regulations. Extra staffing is provided over holiday weekends and during special events. Visitor services field work is overseen and coordinated through the activities of dispatchers providing their services from the Inter-Agency Dispatch Center. Visitor contacts would focus on explaining and seeking voluntary compliance for all California OHV and resource protection laws.

The following actions/tasks will be required:

I) Provide for a staff person to man the visitor center 7 days a week from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m; or as required on Holidays or special events. Often times the BLM staff is called away on an emergency in the event of an accident or missing person report. This would allow for the visitor center to remain open and for staff to be available to provide the visitor contact services.

II) Park Rangers positions (hired/payed employees of FoEM) will also be funded to focus on recruiting, training, and supervising a cadre of off-highway vehicle (OHV) volunteers to assist in the operations and maintenance of the El Mirage OHV area. OHV volunteers will be recruited and quarterly training will be scheduled in the areas of ATV safety training, defensive driving, first aid/CPR, hazmat, radio communication, emergency field procedures, tread lightly ethics, visitor contact safety, and environmental hazards. These volunteers would be used throughout the area for maintenance and visitor contact services.

III) Support for other work activities that the added lead maintenance worker, maintenance workers, volunteers and park rangers would assist the BLM in include the maintenance of the 27 mile long perimeter barrier, several miles of internal protective fencing (roads, Joshua trees, mines and cultural sites), 2 miles of paved road, signed loop trails, 10 vault toilets and hundreds of various types & various size signs, maintenance of dirt roads and trails supporting the Barstow BLM Field Office area of management responsibility including El Mirage.

IV) Fund for the purchase of a Rough Terrain Vehicle (RTV) that will be used by volunteers that will be conducting visitor contact services or maintenance duties. These rugged vehicles have large cargo capacity and towing capabilities making them ideal to haul a pressure washer, signing and fencing materials, as well as a means to conduct visitor contact services. The new motor cycle, will be used by the Park attendant and Out Door Recreational Intern on a daily basis to inspect trails, perform monitoring duties and also be an extension of the FoEM and BLM out reach efforts to all visitors.

V) The hiring of an intern in the field of Outdoor Recreation Planning that would provide a hands-on OHV Management opportunity. This intern would live on site with housing provided by the BLM and a living stipend for two 6 month internships. Possible projects would include trail head improvement, trail inventory, OHV training course construction oversight, children OHV play area construction oversight, trials area design, obstacle course design, setting up monitoring programs for recreation activities & natural resources, etc.

VI) Another important factor to this project is the reprinting of area maps to aid our visitors in getting from point "A" to point "B", as well as identifying points of interest in the total project area, the Maps to be reprinted are the "San Bernardino National Forest and Barstow BLM" 3rd Edition and the Angeles National Forest and El Mirage Area Map 3rd Edition covering El Mirage

VII) In order to maintain all roads/trails to rider satisfaction, we are proposing to perform routine maintenance on a regular basis by hiring various maintenance workers/operators and renting tractors/heavy equipment necessary to smooth out and

clear the roads/trails. All ground disturbing activities for the project will be done only on those roads/trails that have been previously cleared via NEPA/CEQA or other formal documents that authorize such work to be done; are closely coordinated/approved by the BLM Land Manager Barstow FO. This task has a requirement for three specialized hand held radios that meet the specifications set by the BLM Barstow FO, in order to use their frequency network, we have estimated for three radios to accomplish the overall maintenance tasks for this project.

B. Relation of Proposed Project to OHV Recreation

The El Mirage OHV Recreation Area was created primarily to provide opportunities for off-highway vehicle recreation for San Bernardino County and the greater S. Calif. area. To date about 12,000 acres of private land have been acquired with green sticker grants, and added to existing public land creating this 25,850 acre riding area.

This Project provides the visitor services and facility maintenance needed to sustain OHV recreation on public land. Many of these facilities were built with monies from previous green sticker grants. Visitor contact and support services are provided by staff at the visitor center and through routine patrols of the recreation area. This Project provides basic visitor services for people staging, camping and riding OHVs here today and tomorrow.

Additional Project work takes care of infrastructure built to manage, contain and support OHV recreation. Maintaining the perimeter barrier delineates the legal riding opportunity and prevents trespass. Maintaining the access roads and network of OHV Trails facilitates visitor and emergency vehicle travel and distribution throughout the recreation area. Maintaining the signs, restrooms and protective fencing sustains a clean healthy setting. And behind the scenes more work activities address the management and protection of sensitive desert resources. Wildlife guzzlers are routinely inspected, soil and road conditions are monitored, special status species are inventoried, permits are issued and NEPA documents are prepared for a steady stream of special events.

C. Describe the size of the specific Project Area(s) in acres and/or miles

The Barstow BLM Field Office and El Mirage OHV Recreation Area contains 25,850 acres designated open for legal OHV recreation.

D. Location and description of OHV opportunities

The El Mirage Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Recreation Area is located in the Mojave Desert along the western edge of San Bernardino County, which makes it the closest OHV open area recreation experience to the greater Los Angeles area.

This area includes a 5,000 acre dry lake bed perfect for beginning riders, go carts and a variety of special & homemade vehicle types with minimal suspension. From the lake bed the land rises gently across thousands of acres of excellent terrain for intermediate riding to the low lying Shadow Mountains, which bisect the recreation area.

The Shadow Mountains offer a variety of terrain and riding opportunities. This ranges from easy routes up the washes, to intermediate trails across the ridges, interspersed with expert hill climbs.

2. Rerouting Requirements

Rerouting

- (a) Does your project involve rerouting of any roads and trails? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If response to question (a) is 'Yes', a Project timeline, conceptual drawings and site plans are required (See 'Attachments' tab at the top of the screen)

If response to question (a) is 'No', skip details related to rerouting

Additional Documentation

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1. **Project Timeline (Required if project includes necessary rerouting)**
2. **Conceptual Drawings and Site Plans (Required if project includes necessary rerouting)**

3 **Project-Specific Maps**

Attachments:

[BLM Barstow FO Project Map for El Mirage OHV Grant 2009](#)

[Johnson Valley Course A Repairs](#)

[Johnson Valley Course B Repairs](#)

[Repairs for Reduced Rock Pile Bessemer Mine](#)

[Typical Repairs needed](#)

4. **Optional Project-Specific Application Documents**

Attachments:

[Map Cover Titles](#)

[The things people leave in our Deserts](#)

Project Cost Estimate

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:				Version # _____	APP # _____
APPLICANT NAME :	Friends of El Mirage				
PROJECT TITLE :	Ground Operations - Operations and Maintenance/Sustainment (FINAL)			PROJECT NUMBER (Division use only) :	G09-04-11-G02
PROJECT TYPE :	<input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition <input type="checkbox"/> Development <input type="checkbox"/> Education & Safety <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground Operations <input type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement <input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Restoration				
PROJECT DESCRIPTION :	<p>The Friends of El Mirage Grounds Operation Project will fund work activities to augment BLM staff with onsite visitor services along with the normal operations and maintenance activities required to sustain OHV recreation opportunities. BLM Staff, Maintenance Workers and Park Rangers work to clean restrooms and maintain facilities such as trails, roads, signs, kiosks, fences and vehicle barriers. Non Law Enforcement Park Rangers and Volunteers work together to provide seamless visitor services including manning the visitor center, providing public information, emergency services and visitor contacts for voluntary compliance with the rules and regulations. Extra staffing is provided over holiday weekends and during special events. Visitor services field work is overseen and coordinated through the activities of dispatchers providing their services from the Inter-Agency Dispatch Center. Visitor contacts would focus on explaining and seeking voluntary compliance for all California OHV and resource protection laws.</p> <p>The following actions/tasks will be required:</p> <p>I) Provide for a staff person to man the visitor center 7 days a week from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m; or as required on Holidays or special events. Often times the BLM staff is called away on an emergency in the event of an accident or missing person report. This would allow for the visitor center to remain open and for staff to be available to provide the visitor contact services.</p> <p>II) Park Rangers positions (hired/payed employees of FoEM) will also be funded to focus on recruiting, training, and supervising a cadre of off-highway vehicle (OHV) volunteers to assist in the operations and maintenance of the El Mirage OHV area. OHV volunteers will be recruited and quarterly training will be scheduled in the areas of ATV safety training, defensive driving, first aid/CPR, hazmat, radio communication, emergency field procedures, tread lightly ethics, visitor contact safety, and environmental hazards. These volunteers would be used throughout the area for maintenance and visitor contact services.</p> <p>III) Support for other work activities that the added lead maintenance worker, maintenance workers, volunteers and park rangers would assist the BLM in include the maintenance of the 27 mile long perimeter barrier, several miles of internal protective fencing (roads, Joshua trees, mines and cultural sites), 2 miles of paved road, signed loop trails, 10 vault toilets and hundreds of various types & various size signs, maintenance of dirt roads and trails supporting the Barstow BLM Field Office area of management responsibility including El Mirage.</p> <p>IV) Fund for the purchase of a Rough Terrain Vehicle (RTV) that will be used by volunteers that will be conducting visitor contact services or maintenance duties. These rugged vehicles have large cargo capacity and towing capabilities making them ideal to haul a pressure washer, signing and fencing materials, as well as a means to conduct visitor contact services. The new motor cycle, will be used by the Park attendant and Out Door Recreational Intern on a daily basis to inspect trails, perform monitoring duties and also be an extension of the FoEM and BLM out reach efforts to all visitors.</p> <p>V) The hiring of an intern in the field of Outdoor Recreation Planning that would provide a hands-on OHV Management opportunity. This intern would live on site with housing provided by the BLM and a living stipend for two 6 month internships. Possible projects would include trail head improvement, trail inventory, OHV training course construction oversight, children OHV play area construction oversight, trials area design, obstacle course design, setting up monitoring programs for recreation activities & natural resources, etc.</p> <p>VI) Another important factor to this project is the reprinting of area maps to aid our visitors in getting from point "A" to point "B", as well as identifying points of interest in the total project area, the Maps to be reprinted are the "San Bernardino National Forest and Barstow BLM" 3rd Edition and the Angeles National Forest and El Mirage Area Map 3rd Edition covering El Mirage</p> <p>VII) In order to maintain all roads/trails to rider satisfaction, we are proposing to perform routine maintenance on a regular basis by hiring various</p>				

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010
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	<p>maintenance workers/operators and renting tractors/heavy equipment necessary to smooth out and clear the roads/trails. All ground disturbing activities for the project will be done only on those roads/trails that have been previously cleared via NEPA/CEQA or other formal documents that authorize such work to be done; are closely coordinated/approved by the BLM Land Manager Barstow FO. This task has a requirement for three specialized hand held radios that meet the specifications set by the BLM Barstow FO, in order to use their frequency network, we have estimated for three radios to accomplish the overall maintenance tasks for this project.</p>
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	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
DIRECT EXPENSES							
Program Expenses							
1	Staff						
	<p>Other-Visitor Center Personel</p> <p>Notes : Provides for 7 day week and weekends/holidays.</p> <p>There are many times that the BLM regular staff are called away from the main station and have to close the facility and on major holidays, the station operation is either closed or very limited hours, to solve this issue, we have added the hours necessary to maintain a 7 day operation to better serve our visitors.</p>	3536.000	20.140	HRS	71,215.00	0.00	71,215.00
	Other-Park Rangers	4160.000	20.140	HRS	83,782.00	0.00	83,782.00
	<p>Other-Equipment operators/Maintenance</p> <p>Notes : This category allows for hours to support 2 personnel to be in the field at any given time through out the year to performing route/trail maintenance, and installing signage using heavy equipment such as D3 series bulldozers,, graders and tractors.</p>	3120.000	33.580	HRS	69,847.00	34,923.00	104,770.00
	<p>Maintenance Worker</p> <p>Notes : Pays for a maintenance/Auger operator part time during the year to fix, replace various signage through out the project area.</p>	800.000	23.000	HRS	18,400.00	0.00	18,400.00
	Senior Maintenance Worker	1500.000	34.750	HRS	0.00	52,125.00	52,125.00

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	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
	Notes : This person is lead supervisor for the daily planning of the maintenance workload distribution and equipment utilization by projects needed to be done.						
	Other-Project Coordinator Notes : This person is responsible for the day-to-day and longer range planning and operations of the project areas to ensure the project time line and costs are staying within limits.	1500.000	39.000	HRS	0.00	58,500.00	58,500.00
	Other-Volunteer Stipend Notes : Provides for 10 people for a period covering 14 days in the year to clean up selected project areas	14.000	650.000	DAY	4,000.00	5,100.00	9,100.00
	Park Maintenance Worker	2080.000	31.000	HRS	0.00	64,480.00	64,480.00
	Other-Recreational Out door Intern Notes : Intern living on site: Possible projects would include trail head improvement, trail inventory, OHV training course construction oversight, children OHV play area construction oversight, trials area design, obstacle course design, setting up monitoring programs for recreation activities & natural resources, etc	1700.000	16.000	HRS	27,200.00	0.00	27,200.00
	Total for Staff				274,444.00	215,128.00	489,572.00
2	Contracts						
	Other-Reprints of Angeles NF Maps Notes : Maps are Printed with the Cover label of CTUC, bearing the Names of "Angeles NF and El Mirage OHV Area". See attachments for actual label titles.	20000.00 0	0.600	EA	10,000.00	2,000.00	12,000.00
	Other-Reprints of San Bernardino Maps Notes : Maps are Printed with the Cover label of CTUC, bearing the Names of "San Bernardino NF and all of the Barstow BLM F.O.	20000.00 0	0.600	EA	10,000.00	2,000.00	12,000.00

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	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
	OHV Area". See attachments for actual label titles						
	Total for Contracts				20,000.00	4,000.00	24,000.00
3	Materials / Supplies						
	Other-Official Entrance Sign	1.000	1500.000	EA	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00
	Other-posts	1000.000	10.450	EA	10,450.00	0.00	10,450.00
	Other-Decals for posts	1000.000	5.000	EA	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00
	Trash Bags Notes : Trash bags needed for the 14 day clean up of the selected project areas.	14.000	16.000	EA	224.00	0.00	224.00
	Total for Materials / Supplies				17,174.00	0.00	17,174.00
4	Equipment Use Expenses						
	Equipment Rental Notes : Pays for rental costs per week for a D3 Series dozer or equivalent to grade/smooth out the larger rocks embedded in most of the El Mirage trail/route areas, that cause more damage to smaller type equipment. 5 weeks at \$1317.00 per week. The costs include taxes and applicable surcharges.	5.000	1317.000	EA	6,585.00	0.00	6,585.00
	Other-Dozer delivery/pickup charges Notes : Equipment delivery charges for the D3 Series Dozer, estimated \$100.00 for delivery and \$100.00 for pick up services. Plus assigned surcharges.	5.000	222.000	EA	1,110.00	0.00	1,110.00
	Equipment Rental Notes : Pays for a tractor rental with skip loader-bucket and gannon box, for cleaning/finishing routes/trails intermittent during	20.000	779.000	EA	15,580.00	0.00	15,580.00

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	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
	the year but covers about a half year of work. 20 weeks of work at \$779.00 per week. The applicable taxes/surcharges are included.						
	Other-Delivery/surcharges Notes : This cost is for the delivery/pickup of the tractor during the year with applicable surcharges included.	20.000	172.000	EA	3,440.00	0.00	3,440.00
	Other-Fuel for Rental tractor Notes : Pays for diesel fuel for rental equipment during the year.	3900.000	3.100	MISC	12,090.00	0.00	12,090.00
	Other-Fuel for auger truck operations Notes : Pays for auger truck and auger motor fuel during the year.	1384.000	2.890	MISC	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00
	Other-Fuel for D3 dozer Notes : Pays for the rental Dozer @ about 2.5 to 3.2 gal an hour, used 5 times for the year at one week per use, and about 8 hours a day for operations.	600.000	3.100	MISC	1,860.00	0.00	1,860.00
	Equipment Rental Notes : pays for trucks to carry/haul away trash etc covering a 14 day period during the year for clean up.	2.000	1428.000	EA	1,400.00	1,456.00	2,856.00
	Total for Equipment Use Expenses				46,065.00	1,456.00	47,521.00
5	Equipment Purchases						
	Other-Side-by-Side 4x4	1.000	15000.000	EA	15,000.00	0.00	15,000.00
	Other-Motorcycle-Dirt	1.000	6500.000	EA	6,500.00	0.00	6,500.00
	Total for Equipment Purchases				21,500.00	0.00	21,500.00
6	Others						
	Other-Motorcycle safety gear	2.000	950.000	EA	1,900.00	0.00	1,900.00

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	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
	Notes : Provides for rider safety gear for two persons, prime users will be the Park Rangers.						
	Other-Purchase 3 Hand held Radios Notes : This is to provide for 3 specific hand held radio types that are currently used by the BLM Barstow Field office, by purchasing these same radios, we can be aware of all activities going on in the project area, and allows maintenance teams, monitors and rangers to work together as a team. Estimates for the specific radio type is \$800.00 each.	3.000	800.000	EA	2,400.00	0.00	2,400.00
	Total for Others				4,300.00	0.00	4,300.00
7	Indirect Costs						
	Indirect Costs-General office/admin supp Notes : Provides for all general office support and other personnel assisting/volunteers for project tasks.	1.000	38000.000	YR	38,000.00	0.00	38,000.00
	Total Program Expenses				421,483.00	220,584.00	642,067.00
	TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES				421,483.00	220,584.00	642,067.00
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES				421,483.00	220,584.00	642,067.00

Project Cost Summary for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010
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	Line Item	Grant Request	Match	Total	Narrative
DIRECT EXPENSES					
Program Expenses					
1	Staff	274,444.00	215,128.00	489,572.00	
2	Contracts	20,000.00	4,000.00	24,000.00	
3	Materials / Supplies	17,174.00	0.00	17,174.00	
4	Equipment Use Expenses	46,065.00	1,456.00	47,521.00	
5	Equipment Purchases	21,500.00	0.00	21,500.00	
6	Others	4,300.00	0.00	4,300.00	
7	Indirect Costs	38,000.00	0.00	38,000.00	
Total Program Expenses		421,483.00	220,584.00	642,067.00	
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES		421,483.00	220,584.00	642,067.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		421,483.00	220,584.00	642,067.00	

Environmental Review Data Sheet (ERDS)

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ITEM 1 and ITEM 2

ITEM 1

- a. ITEM 1 - Has a CEQA Notice of Determination (NOD) been filed for the Project? ☐ Yes ☒ No
(Please select Yes or No)

ITEM 2

- b. Does the proposed Project include a request for funding for CEQA and/or NEPA document preparation prior to implementing the remaining Project Deliverables (i.e., is it a two-phased Project pursuant to Section 4970.06.1(b)) (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

ITEM 3 - Project under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378

- c. ITEM 3 - Are the proposed activities a "Project" under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378? ☒ Yes ☐ No
(Please select Yes or No)
- d. The Application is requesting funds solely for personnel and support to enforce OHV laws and ensure public safety. These activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No
- e. Other. Explain why proposed activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. DO NOT complete ITEMS 4 – 10

ITEM 4 - Impact of this Project on Wetlands

There are no wetlands in this project area. Vegetation: A recent rare plant baseline survey was conducted by the West Mojave Desert Monitoring Team throughout the El Mirage Cooperative Area as part of the 2004 State of California Department of Parks and Recreation, Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division regulations governing the contents of the Habitat Management Plan (HMP) as part of the environmental documentation for grant applications to the Division and the OHMVR Commission (CCR Title 14, Division 3, Chapter 15, Article 3, 4970.14). No known state or federally-listed threatened or endangered plant species are known to exist in the El Mirage Cooperative Management Area. No candidate species are known to be present.

The proposed project would require moving of soil to eliminate worm tracks, building berms, securing poles in the ground, and grading trails. Trails would also be lined with bales of hay to ensure that riders stay on the one-way course.

Vegetation located within the proposed site that would be disturbed by this action consists mainly of Creosote, Russian thistle, Mojave Saltbush-Allscale Scrub, and annual forbs such as Mustards and Amsinkia.

Wildlife: Wildlife species diversity is low within the proposed project area. In addition, water is scarce within the proposed project area further limiting animal species and distribution. Other factors affecting wildlife habitat quality within the proposed project area are introduction of several invasive plant species, large areas of no vegetation, and off-highway vehicle use.

Threatened and Endangered Species: This is covered extensively under the attached Biological Opinion 1-6-90-F-36, Formal Consultation, which addresses the Mohave ground squirrel (*Spermophilus mohavensis*) and desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*). These issues would apply to the proposed ground disturbance improvements.

Two Mohave ground squirrel studies (May 2002 and May 2004) have been conducted by Philip Leitner throughout the El Mirage Cooperative Management Area as part of the State of California Department of Parks and Recreation, Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division regulations governing the contents of the Habitat Management Plan (HMP) as part of the environmental documentation for grant applications to the Division and the OHMVR Commission (CCR Title 14, Division 3, Chapter 15, Article 3, 4970.14). It was determined that no populations of the Mohave ground squirrels are found at El Mirage.

ITEM 5 - Cumulative Impacts of this Project

Past, present, and reasonably foreseeable cumulative impacts for activities proposed within the geographic area in question, The El Mirage OHV Open Area, have been adequately evaluated in the El Mirage Cooperative Management Plan, including the proposed actions. There would be a net positive cumulative impact to natural and man made environment. See section 4.2 page 13 of EA

ITEM 6 - Soil Impacts

There would be negligible impacts because of the technical course on the geology of the area. The soils on which the projects will be developed are not subject to subsidence or expansion and are mainly alluvium resources. There would be minor short term negative impacts from erosion, changes in topography, or unstable soil conditions from excavation, grading or fill. Soil erosion could cause an impact if materials blow from the site or are removed by runoff. Any materials that blow away would tend to be fin-size materials. This would increase the dust concentration in the project vicinity resulting in air quality deterioration on a short-term basis. Section 4.1 page 10 in EA

ITEM 7 - Damage to Scenic Resources

There are no scenic/visual resources impacted by this project.

ITEM 8 - Hazardous Materials

Is the proposed Project Area located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code (hazardous materials)? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

If YES, describe the location of the hazard relative to the Project site, the level of hazard and the measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the hazards.

ITEM 9 - Potential for Adverse Impacts to Historical or Cultural Resources

Would the proposed Project have potential for any substantial adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

Discuss the potential for the proposed Project to have any substantial adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources.

No known cultural resources will be impacted.

ITEM 10 - Indirect Significant Impacts

There is no significant impact to the project area or immediate surrounding area, by simply keeping the existing trails/routes groomed on a regular basis, will keep riders on the them.

CEQA/NEPA Attachment

Attachments:

[DR/CER DOI-BLM-CA-D080-2009-0039-CX](#)

Evaluation Criteria

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1. Project Cost Estimate - Q 1. (Auto populates from Cost Estimate)

1. As calculated on the Project Cost Estimate, the percentage of the cost of the Project covered by the Applicant is 3

(Note: This field will auto-populate once the Cost Estimate and Evaluation Criteria are Validated.) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ 76% or more (10 points)
☐ 51% - 75% (5 points)
☒ 26% - 50% (3 points)
☐ 25% (Match minimum) (No points)

2. Failure to Complete - Q 2.

2. Failure to complete the Project would result in: 7

(Check all that apply) : Maximum of 8 points (Please select applicable values)

- ☐ Loss of OHV Opportunity (6 points)
☒ Negative impact to cultural sites (2 points)
☒ Damage to special-status species or other sensitive habitat (2 points)
☒ Potential trespass (2 points)
☒ Additional damage to Facilities (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

- a. This project maintains protective barriers around sensitive cultural sites in the Shadow Mountains. Preventive activities web pages, kiosks, brochures, and visitor contacts by LE Rangers and non-LE Park Rangers.
b. There are a special-status species and sensitive habitat within the OHV Recreation Area that is protected by a multi-layer approach involving outreach, interpretation, visitor contacts and physical barriers.
c. Trespass was the biggest issue nearly resulted in closing El Mirage to OHVs. We work hard with local communities and stakeholders on a program to prevent and control trespass.
d. We see a correlation between on-site presence and vandalism to facilities. The higher staff presence and the better the facilities are maintained the less they are vandalized.

3. Sustain OHV Opportunity - Q 3.

3. The Project would sustain OHV Opportunity by 13

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Maintaining trail or road tread (5 points)
☒ Installing or repairing erosion control features (3 points)
☒ Providing traffic control and/or educational signage (3 points)
☒ Maintaining multi use (ATV, Dirt Bikes, 4x4, etc) (1 point)
☒ Providing varied levels of riding difficulty (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

- a. 12 miles of access roads maintained on a regular basis; grading, dust control and compaction. Provide access for vehicles with OHVs, campers, motorhomes and trucks towing trailers. This project funds compete maintenance on a regular schedule, including control dust and compact road surfaces.
- b. Project includes clearing drainage channels and culverts. There are a few earthen drainage channels built decades ago. These need to be cleaned and maintained where intersect primary road system.
- c. Maintenance activities for the recreation area include upkeep and replacement of traffic control signs such as stop, speed limits, riding restrictions, plus signage for interpretation, rules & regulations and educational & safety messages.
- d. This project is used for many activities, such as ATV, Dune Buggies, Motocross bikes, motor cycles, 4x4 trucks and general off road driving, dirt bikes etc.
- e. The terrain varies greatly for beginner to expert rider providing OHV riding opportunities fr

4. Public Input - Q 4.

4. The Project was developed with public input employing the following 2

(Check all that apply) : Maximum of 2 points (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Publicly noticed meeting(s) with the general public to discuss Project (1 point)
- ☐ Conference call(s) with interested parties (1 point)
- ☒ Meeting(s) with stakeholders (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

- a. This project was presented in public meetings with the OHV Leadership Team
- b. This project was developed with public input from the last couple of meetings, along with the other FoEM projects. These meetings were attended by representatives from a range of activities including OHV groups, motorized sports, competitive racing, commercial filming, local homeowners, business interest, environmental interest and clubs for non-motorized sports.

5. Utilization of Partnerships - Q 5.

5. The Project will utilize partnerships to successfully accomplish the Project. The number of partner organizations that will participate in the Project are 4

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☒ 4 or more (4 points)
- ☐ 2 to 3 (2 points)
- ☐ 1 (1 point)
- ☐ None (No points)

List partner organization(s):

The Barstow Field Office of the BLM, San Bernardino County Sheriff Departments, AMA District 37, SCTA , along with El Mirage Homeowners Association and San Bernardino County Parks Department

6. Impact to Natural and Cultural Resources - Q 6.

6. The Project will avoid and/or minimize impact to natural and cultural resources by 4

(Check all that apply) : Maximum of 7 points (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Maintaining physical barriers to control OHV use (1 point)
- ☐ Protecting water quality (1 point)
- ☐ Providing bridges instead of wet crossings where appropriate (1 point)
- ☒ Protecting special-status species (1 point)
- ☐ Re-routing trails to divert away from riparian/wetlands areas (1 point)
- ☒ Providing sanitary facilities (1 point)
- ☒ Protecting cultural site(s) (1 point)
- ☐ Site design precludes the need for the above measures (7 points)

Explain each statement that was checked

It is understood that FoEM is here to assist in the BLM efforts and will coordinate all ground operations.

- a. Project maintains 27 miles of perimeter fence to control OHV use, in part to protect sensitive desert resources on public lands closed to motorized travel.
- b. Project maintains northern perimeter fence, a mandatory term and condition in our Section 7 Consultation Package with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service regarding the Desert Tortoise.
- c. This project maintains signs, fences and alternative roads to divert traffic away from the 5,000 acre dry lakebed from vehicle use while it is wet or muddy.
- d. There are ten vault toilets within the recreation area that need ongoing maintenance.
- e. There are a few sensitive cultural sites protected by fences and barriers within the OHV Recreation area. These include both historic and prehistoric resources. This project includes fence maintenance, plus routine Ranger patrols along with staff and volunteer monitoring.

7. Recycled Materials - Q 7.

7. The Project incorporates recycled materials by utilizing 4

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Barrier materials which include recycled content or materials obtained onsite (1 point)
- ☒ Signs, sign posts or education kiosks which use products with recycled content (1 point)
- ☒ Erosion control features which use materials with recycled content (1 point)
- ☐ Paper used for trail maps which includes recycled content (1 point)
- ☒ Other products with recycled content (Specify) (1 point) [Our largest use of recycled sign material involves attaching reflective material]

8. Sustainable Technologies - Q 8.

8. The Project makes substantial use of sustainable technologies such as 0

- Alternative fuel vehicles and equipment
- Renewable energy sources (e.g., solar, wind)
- Low volatile organic compound emission materials (e.g., paint, sealants, carpet)
- Low flow plumbing fixtures
- Water efficient landscaping

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☒ No (No points) ☐ Yes (4 points)

Explain 'Yes' response

9. Motorized Access - Q 9.

9. The Project improves and/or maintains facilities that provide motorized access to the following non-motorized recreation opportunities 6

(Check all that apply) Scoring: 2 points each, up to a maximum of 6 points (Please select applicable values)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Camping | <input type="checkbox"/> Birding |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hiking | <input type="checkbox"/> Equestrian trails |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Rock Climbing |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) [Land Sailing, Gyrocopter, rocket shooting] | |

